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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

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SUBJECT Navigation School at Wustrow

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REFERENCES

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1. The navigation school at Wustrow offers approximately the same subjects as those taught in a West German navigation school, with the exception that so-called "social studies" are added. About nine hours a week are devoted to these "social studies." When the students complained that the "social studies" were taking time away from the instruction of the other courses, the A 5 course was lengthened to 80 weeks, and the A.6 to 40 weeks.
2. In addition to the "social studies" the weekly curriculum contains the following courses: navigation, physics, meteorology, law, seamanship, instruction in marine engines, signal usages, and English, the only foreign language. The main subjects are navigation, seamanship, law, and the "social studies".
3. Actually the "social studies" amount to political indoctrination. Instruction in this field is based on German history beginning with the Revolution of 1848, and Russian history beginning in 1861 with the uprising of the industrial proletariat. In German history, people like Rosa Luxemburg, Karl Liebknecht, Marx, and Engels are glorified, whereas the really great of the period are ignored. The SPD is shown in a particularly bad light. As a glaring example of its failure, its voting at the outbreak of the first World War is cited.
4. In contrast, the Russian Revolution of 1917 is exalted. Lenin-Stalin theories are taught. American and Western "imperialism" are presented as the antithesis of the Communistic theories and also as a sign of "dying Capitalism". As an example of inhumane Capitalism, atrocities from English history are cited, as in the Boer uprising. Books by so-called progressive writers such as Anna Seegers and Johannes R. Becher are recommended to the students.

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5. In the course in law, the usual seamen's code is not taught as it is elsewhere. Instead, a study group of students worked on a draft of a seamen's code for the East Zone.
6. There is no Russian personnel in the school.
7. Admission to the school is on the basis of voluntary enrollment. Membership in at least one of the political mass organizations such as the FDGB or the DSF is required. Membership in the SED is not officially required but is assumed; otherwise, advancement after graduation is difficult. Younger men wishing to enter the school are required to belong to the FDJ. This is especially a requirement for persons wishing to receive a scholarship. Without a scholarship, students have to pay 20.00 DME per semester for tuition, plus examination fees.
8. Qualification examinations are not given upon entering the school. The only requirement is the completion of a grammar school. After the first semester, the student is required to take a matriculation examination similar to the kind required at navigation schools. Upon the completion of three semesters, he can take the A 5 examination; after four semesters, the A 6 examination.
9. At the school, the students receive theoretical instruction in the most modern nautical instruments such as the DEKA apparatus and radar:

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the technical instruction is good and effective.

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